

Agency for International Development and on the Board of Advisors for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and as an Incorporating Director of the Points of Lights Foundation under President George H.W. Bush. In 2010, he was honored by the United States Peace Corps for his life-long contributions to voluntarism and civil society.

From 1982 to 1995, Joseph was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Council on Foundations, an international organization of more than 2,000 foundations and corporate giving programs, which changed communities and lives on five continents. He served as a Vice President of Cummins Engine Company, the world's largest producer of heavy-duty diesel engines, and President of the Cummins Foundation from 1971 to 1977, where he was a pioneer in corporate social responsibility and helped fund a broad array of civil rights and civil society organizations.

Ambassador Joseph's journey was historic, having started life on a family farm in Southwest Louisiana, spending his early years in segregated Opelousas, Louisiana—the state headquarters of the Ku Klux Klan—and rising to the heights of achievement and contributions in academia, public service, civil society, and the private sector. My House colleagues may be interested to learn that in high school, he won the state oratory competition and placed second in the national competition to one of my predecessors and role models, the future Congresswoman Barbara Jordan (D-TX), the first Southern African-American woman elected to the United States House of Representatives.

Ambassador Joseph was a leader in the fight for civil rights. After graduating from Southern University in 1956 and obtaining a master's degree from Yale Divinity School in 1963, he taught at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, the national headquarters of the KKK. While at Stillman, Joseph cofounded the local civil rights movement, leading marches, sit-ins, and other protests against segregation, garnering death threats from the KKK. He befriended and worked alongside renown civil rights leaders including The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young, former Congressman John Lewis and William Gray, former National Urban League President Vernon Jordan, and others.

After his government service, Ambassador Joseph continued to find ways to contribute to American society, including serving as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Louisiana after Hurricanes Rita and Katrina decimated New Orleans and communities across the southern part of the state.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sincere condolences to Ambassador Joseph's family, including his son and my college classmate, Jeff Joseph, his wife, the former Mary Braxton of Sarasota, Florida, daughter Denise, daughter-in-law Lisa Merman, and granddaughters Jordan and Julia Joseph.

HONORING FORMER
CONGRESSMAN FRED UPTON

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Congressman Fred Upton and his contributions to philanthropies throughout Michigan and across the country as he receives a well-deserved honor from the Council on Michigan Foundations this evening. Congressman Upton served his community for 36 years in the House of Representatives, and his significant contributions to our community are worthy of commendation.

Congressman Upton was born in St. Joseph, Michigan, and is a graduate of the University of Michigan. He first ran for office in 1986, and never once wavered in his commitment to the people he served. Known simply as Fred to everyone who has ever met him, he has always brought people together, and he has been one of my best friends for longer than either of us care to remember. To him, 'bipartisan' and 'compromise' are not forbidden words. Fred knows well that if we are going to deliver real solutions for the American people, we need to come together and listen to all perspectives, no matter how complicated the issue may be. It is because of that thinking, that he was able to get so much done in Congress.

Raised by a family with deep roots in their community, Fred spends day and night thinking of ways to support his neighbors. His family helped launch the Berrien Community Foundation as well as the Frederick S. Upton Foundation a few years later and has contributed tens of millions to charitable causes. These efforts include the creation of the Stephen E. Upton Love Your Community Endowment, which provides grants of at least \$50,000 every year to local non-profit organizations supporting needs in their community. Though we lost Stephen last year, his impact will carry on through his loving wife of 71 years, Elizabeth, and his children, who like Fred, are always seeking opportunities to do the most good in his memory.

That family commitment to community always guided Fred's work in Congress. He introduced the Strength and Partnership Act of 2022 to strengthen the relationship between nonprofits and the federal government. He would spend hours on the phone or in his neighborhood talking to his constituents about how he could help them. Fred was never too busy to lend an ear or a shoulder to a neighbor in need. And even as he has retired from Congress, he will still be out in his community finding ways to serve anyone and everyone who needs a little help.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring former Congressman Fred Upton. We are grateful for his time spent serving the citizens of Southwest Michigan. I join with his family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to him for the future.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY AND BUILDING REDEDICATION OF BOOKER TALIAFERRO WASHINGTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an Orleans Parish Public School named in honor of an American educator, author, orator, and adviser to several presidents of the United States including Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. Between 1890 and 1915, Washington was the dominant leader in the African American community and of the contemporary black elite.

In 1881, the New Orleans School Board barred the city's black students from attending public school beyond the sixth grade. However, in 1917, due to pressure from the black community, the school board relented and converted the McDonogh No. 13 campus, then located at 655 South Rampart Street, from a white boy's elementary school to a public high school for black students and renamed the facility McDonogh No. 35. Through decades of sustained activism from Black leaders and a bailout from the federal government. Lacking political power, Black leaders worked through civic, religious and educational organizations to press their concerns before the school board, beginning first with the total lack of public education beyond the fifth grade, as mandated by school board policy in 1900. The sixth was restored in 1909, the seventh in 1913, and the eighth in 1914. With these milestones under their belts, Black leaders began the campaign for a high school. The much sought after school opened in 1917 as McDonogh 35 in a recycled former school for whites. The next item on the activist agenda was a sorely needed vocational school. But where to find the money? The Rosenwald Fund had expressed an interest but only if the school board shared the cost.

During much of the 1920s and early 1930s, the Orleans Public School Board was further pressed into initiating discussions to consider the construction of a new high school for New Orleans' black children as McDonogh 35's campus had proved woefully inadequate to accommodate the city's growing black community.

Census records indicated that 8,709 high school age black children resided in Orleans Parish in 1930. Of these children, 2,580 were enrolled in McDonogh No. 35, the city's black high school age population, it significantly taxed the McDonogh No. 35's physical plant and led to overcrowded conditions.

In 1930 the school board sold bonds for school construction and allocated \$275,000 toward construction of a Black trade school. The Rosenwald Fund pledged \$125,000. In response to concerns that a Black trade school might threaten white jobs, a public statement was issued, assuring everyone "that the trades to be taught at the school would be exclusively those which are largely occupied by colored labor at this time." But it would still be another dozen years before Booker T. Washington High School became a reality.

After purchasing a parcel of land for the purpose, the school board announced that it did

not have the money to match the Rosenwald offer. Instead, in 1934 they built on the site a wood frame elementary school for Blacks for \$21,000. Although disheartened by this broken promise, black leaders continued to champion their goal throughout the 1930s. But it was federal, not local funds, that made Booker T. possible. In the twilight of its existence, the New Deal's Works Progress Administration funded the project to the tune of some quarter of a million dollars. Like other similar schools across the South, it was named for Booker T. Washington, the famous black educator.

(In regard to making it a vocational school) Many felt that such an education would prepare the city's Black students for employment in relatively high-paying emergent technical/trade careers, thus providing them with better opportunities in life.

At the same time, many within the city's Black community objected to this type of curriculum, as they felt that a college-preparatory education strongly based in classical academics of the same caliber offered to white students should be made available for their children.

In 1942, the Booker T. Washington campus was the first new high school built specifically for Black students in New Orleans. According to census records, the number of black high school age children in the city had increased from 8,709 to 11,238. Only 2,580 of those children had a place to attend school prior to the opening of Booker T. Washington.

It was named "Booker T. Washington Senior High School" as a tribute to a celebrated Black educator and activist during the late 19th and early 20th centuries who passionately argued the benefits of a vocational education. He saw it as a benefit not only to the Black community but to uplift the Southern economy. New Orleans saw notable industrial developments in the 30s and 40s.

The school's curriculum was comprehensive. It offered both an impressive range of traditional academic courses in addition to vocational classes and training in the trades. Classes offered included shoe repair, biology, social science, physical education, graphic arts, home economics, vocal/music, masonry, woodworking, math, English, and instrumental music (OSPB, 1942–43: 110). The school boasted an enrollment of 1,600 children in its 1942–1943 school year. Students came from all corners of the city because of the promise to invest in the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and doers. The teachers were all Black, educated, and inspired by the pivotal role the high school played in the sojourn to racial equality. It was a unique snapshot of the richness of New Orleans.

During WWII, New Orleans was home to Higgins Industries which is credited for building a special boat that helped the U.S. win the war. The Higgins workforce was the first in New Orleans to be racially integrated. Employees included whites and Black people, men, women, seniors, and people with disabilities. All were paid equal wages according to their job functions. The significant industrial developments were the main reason educators and business owners were pushing for a vocational school that would prepare students to immediately join the workforce and provide for their families. These environmental influences aided in the popularity of Booker T. Washington High School, cementing it as a destination for New Orleans youth.

In 1945, following the close of World War II, BTW High School opened its doors to the community's returning Black war veterans with the establishment of the BTW Afternoon Center, which provided vocational training to veterans on a 12-month basis. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) held its local chapter's annual meeting at the BTW auditorium in March 1945.

In 1946, the BTW Summer School for Vets was established to teach automotive, shoe repair, woodworking, painting and decorating, and masonry to the community's former servicemen (OSPB, 1946: 538, 539).

In 1948, construction of an "Auto Mechanics Shop and Greenhouse" was complete.

Responding to a clear job training need during the 1948–49 school year, Cosmetology classes were first offered at BTW High School.

In 1949, OPSB authorized the expansion of the school's curriculum with the addition of "short unit courses" for the training of practical nurses (these classes would not actually be offered until 1959).

BTW emerged as a local sports powerhouse as its football team, the Lions, won both the city championship and the state title in 1949 and 1950.

In 1957, Martin Luther King, Jr. speaks at the National Beauty Culturalist League, Inc., 38th Annual Convention. The Convention was held at Booker T. Washington Senior High School auditorium. The school graduated cosmetologists, carpenters, auto repair experts, and other vo-tech specialists.

Dr. King spoke on "The Role of Beauticians in the Struggle for Freedom." King said: "I am not too optimistic to believe that integration is 'just around the corner.' We have come a long, long way and we still have a long way to go, but we must keep moving despite the delay tactics used by segregationists." King received the organization's Civil Rights Award at the event.

War bond rallies held at the auditorium between 1942 and 1945 raised thousands of dollars and enabled the city's black residents to contribute to the war effort.

In 1962, Orleans Parish School Board announced the launch of a building program to include the construction of the "Booker T. Washington Addition and Gymnasium Annex." The annex was a freestanding, three-story edifice that was sited to the west of the campus's main school building. The annex housed a gymnasium, 16 classrooms, and laboratories. Dubbed "The Lion's Den". The City of New Orleans was still dealing with the desegregation of public schools that was initiated in 1960. In September 1962, the Catholic schools of Orleans Parish were also integrated, without much protest or disruption.

In the early 1970s this "dual track" curriculum was shelved for one that was primarily academic due largely to "education reformers and civil rights activists who lobbied against vocational education for black students and for integrated college preparatory high schools." This sentiment was rooted in the belief that a vocational education would guarantee that Black people were trapped in low-wage jobs (Thevenot, 2004:1). Many firsts were happening at the same time throughout the city. In 1970, city organizers expanded on an idea that started at Dillard University and started the first Jazz & Heritage Festival. The Superdome opened on August 3, 1975. The city

elected its first Black Mayor, Ernest N. Morial, who was a product of New Orleans Public Schools.

During the 1980s, it is noted that the high-quality curriculum that formerly distinguished the school also began to erode by the 1980s. The larger area of Central City continues to see a steady decline as the crack epidemic took over in New Orleans as well as other major cities and the homicide rates continued to increase. The city even took to imposing a curfew for those 16 and under in an attempt to reduce crime. Oil production was cut nearly in half in the late 1980s, creating a ripple effect in New Orleans that changed the landscape and economy of the city forever. It caused the state to reduce its support of local schools. The deteriorating environment began to negatively impact Booker T. Washington along with many New Orleans Public Schools that once were sources of tremendous pride.

By 1981, BTW reached back into its past and initiated an award-winning vocational program that endeavored to train students for agricultural-based employment opportunities. The course was classified as a "Cooperative Agriculture and Education Program," with students receiving both course credit and a salary whilst receiving practical experience in an agribusiness occupation.

The course was classified as a "Cooperative Agriculture and Education Program," with students receiving both course credit and a salary whilst receiving practical experience in an agribusiness occupation.

Booker T. Washington High School is added to the National Register of Historical Places in 2002 because of its architectural and historical significance.

By 2004, BTW is forced to suspend its curriculum due to extremely low enrollment and switches to a vocational/technical school for the 05/06 school year.

BTW building suffered extensive damage from Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

BTW High School is officially demolished in 2012, sparing only the auditorium and entrance due to their historical significance.

In 2019, fifteen years after the historic Booker T. Washington High School building in Central City closed its doors, hundreds gathered in the school's gymnasium to celebrate its \$52.5 million renovation.

I am humbled to have personally known so many great New Orleans legends, leaders and alumni of this great Institution. Each of them has done so much to improve the lives of countless residents across Louisiana's Second Congressional District, the State of Louisiana and the entire Country. So many people's lives are enriched because of the passion expressed in touching people along the way. New Orleans is rich in culture because of many Booker T. Washington Alumni that makes a difference. I look forward to what will develop out of the walls of this great institution into our future. Congratulations on its reopening and the future it holds.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE CABIN AIR SAFETY ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Cabin Air Safety Act," with U.S.